

STATE OF IOWA
DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
UTILITIES BOARD

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| IN RE: UTILICORP UNITED, INC. | DOCKET NO. P-845 |
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ORDER ASSIGNING TO PRESIDING OFFICER

(Issued March 25, 2002)

On November 26, 2001, UtiliCorp United, Inc. (UtiliCorp), filed a petition requesting that the Utilities Board (Board) issue a permit to construct, operate, and maintain a new natural gas pipeline. The pipeline will consist of 1.8 miles of six-inch steel pipeline and provide natural gas service from a metering station in Greene County, Iowa, to the Tall Corn ethanol plant in Guthrie County, Iowa.

Board staff has informed UtiliCorp of several deficiencies in the petition and questions about the new pipeline. The deficiencies involve the description of the route, whether permits from other state agencies are required, right of way consent, and additional information to be included in the Land Restoration Plan. Board staff filed a report concerning the pipeline on January 7, 2002, and concluded that there are no substantive physical obstacles to construction.

Iowa Code § 479.7 (2001) requires the Board to set a hearing in a pipeline proceeding upon the filing of a petition. Although there are deficiencies in the

petition, UtiliCorp should be able to file the additional information prior the hearing. Therefore, the Board will assign this proceeding, identified as Docket No. P-845, to a presiding officer to establish a procedural schedule and set a hearing date.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED:

Docket No. P-845 is assigned to a presiding officer to establish a procedural schedule and exercise the authority provided in 199 IAC 7.1(4).

UTILITIES BOARD

/s/ Diane Munns

/s/ Mark O. Lambert

ATTEST:

/s/ Judi K. Cooper
Executive Secretary

/s/ Elliott Smith

Dated at Des Moines, Iowa, this 25th day of March, 2002.